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studies which can never by any possibility be popular, or appeal even to any large number of students, but which have demonstrated their power to enlighten and to ennoble those who pursue them, shall not be given up in obedience to popular clamor, merely to make way for other things that seem to be of more immediate utility." Consequently, we must put in the curriculum of our graduate schools those subjects whose study best disciplines the mind and character, makes strong men, establishes high ideals; subjects the most abstract and far removed from the material needs of mankind, even though popular clamor in its mistaken zeal is against them.

The state of Illinois has taken a noteworthy step in the history of democratic government in appropriating money specifically for the support of a graduate school of the arts and sciences. It is evidence that the democratic people of Illinois believe that scholarship is necessary to progress, prosperity and the continuance of democratic ideals. Their act is evidence of the existence of at least a subconscious belief that only thus can the democratic institutions that have become endeared to us be made permanent. The public of this state has learned more rapidly, and in a way that the people of scarcely any other state has learned, the value of research in the arts and sciences, from the splendid success and service of applied science, particularly in agriculture and engineering. They are carrying the lesson over and showing that they believe that the satisfaction of the intellectual and moral needs of the masses is as important a matter for public support as their material prosperity, or economic progress. It is therefore a high trust that is committed to us. We are called on here to lay plans which will bear fruit in the enrichment of the spiritual and intellectual nature and life of the people of our state and country. We are called

on to add to the sum of the world's knowledge in the name of and through the support of a democratic people, to the end that the world shall be a better world, that democracy in particular shall be able to follow truer ideals and reach a higher life than it can without such scholarship. We are called on to make the State University the center of knowledge and information for all matters relating to public life and private welfare, in the interest of the citizens, and to furnish them the means for their intellectual, ethical and spiritual growth.

DAVID KINLEY

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

*PROFESSOR WHITMAN AND THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY*

PROFESSOR WHITMAN's services to biology as director of the Marine Biological Laboratory have been so notable and his retirement from that post is a matter of so much general interest that consent has been obtained to publish the following abstract from the minutes of the trustees of the laboratory:

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

August 8, 1908.

To THE TRUSTEES OF THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, WOODS HOLLOW, MASS.

*Gentlemen:* This year has brought the twenty-first birthday of the Marine Biological Laboratory. For these many years you have continued to honor me with the directorship of the laboratory. In late years I have so far drifted out of office and out of use that a formal resignation at this time can be scarcely more than an announcement of the fact accomplished. The time has arrived, however, when a reorganization seems to be imperatively demanded, and as a prelude thereto, I must ask you to accept this note as a somewhat belated announcement of my resignation of the office of director.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you one and all very heartily for the cordial support you have extended to me.

Respectfully,  
C. O. WHITMAN

MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY  
Woods Hole, Mass.,  
August 13, 1908.

The corporation and trustees of the Marine Biological Laboratory, in accepting the resignation of the director, Professor C. O. Whitman, have ordered to be put upon their records and to be forwarded to Dr. Whitman the following minute:

The corporation and trustees desire to express to the retiring director their regret that he finds it necessary to withdraw from the active directorship of the laboratory and their appreciation of the inestimable value of his services. Since the establishment of the laboratory at Woods Hole, twenty-one years ago, he has been continuously its director and he has to a very large extent guided its growth and development. He has stood for the principles of cooperation and independence which have made the laboratory unique in its character and truly national in its influence. His high ideals and his generous appreciation of the work of others have been an inspiration to the many biologists who, during these years, have attended the laboratory. These ideals are the most valuable possession of the laboratory.

The corporation and trustees desire that the retiring director may continue to serve the laboratory as honorary director and trustee and that in the future as in the past his presence at the laboratory may continue to be an inspiration.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

August 17, 1908.

TO THE CORPORATION AND TRUSTEES OF THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, WOODS HOLE, MASS.

*Ladies and Gentlemen:* Your action of August 13, in which you express a desire to have me serve the laboratory as "honorary director and trustee" is, in itself alone, an all-sufficient reward for whatever service I have rendered as director. Your *good will* is the all-important recompense, and no title that you could confer could add to the weight of your approbation. In fact, titles belittle the spirit. Let me have the latter without the former—without title or office of any kind. Please respect this wish and believe me, as ever, a sincere and devoted friend of the laboratory.

Respectfully and cordially,  
C. O. WHITMAN

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IT is announced that the Berlin Academy of Sciences has received a legacy of 30,000,000

Marks (about \$7,500,000), being the entire fortune of a millionaire named Samson, a Berlin banker, who recently died childless at Brussels.

THE National Academy of Sciences will hold its autumn meeting in the physical laboratory of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, beginning on the morning of Tuesday, November 17.

THE navy department has received a letter from Commander Peary, dated from the *Roosevelt* on August 17, announcing his safe arrival at Etah, North Greenland. The trip so far had been satisfactory, and he expected to proceed north on that night.

DR. ALBRECHT PENCK, professor of geography at Berlin, arrived in New York on Saturday, and has this week begun his duties as Kaiser Wilhelm professor at Columbia University and Silliman lecturer at Yale University.

PROFESSOR RUSSELL H. CHITTENDEN, director of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, has been appointed the university's representative at the Darwin celebration to be held at the University of Cambridge next June.

DR. S. H. BABCOCK, of the University of Wisconsin, has been presented with a silver medal by the European DeLaval Separator Corporation of Stockholm, Sweden, in recognition of the distinguished service which he has rendered to the advancement of dairying. The medal, which was issued on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the corporation, bears on one side the busts of Dr. Gustaf DeLaval, the inventor of the separator, and Sir John Bernstrom, originator of important improvements, and, on the reverse, figures of the genius of invention handing the separator to Mercury, the god of commerce, to be carried around the world.

DR. A. TINGLE, B.Sc. (London and Aberdeen), Ph.D. (Pennsylvania), has been appointed scientific adviser to the viceroy of the Province of Chili, China. Dr. Tingle's address is care of No. 5 Post Office, Ho Pei, Tientsin City, China.